



EUROPE UNITED

Dear EGEA member companies and associations. Some of the campaign

slogans for the European elections held a few weeks ago sounded like a swan song to the idea of a united Europe. The EGEA and its institutions are living proof that a united Europe is alive and thriving.

The General Assembly in Gdansk, impressively organized by the Polish association STM, not only took place in an extremely constructive and friendly atmosphere in the middle of the old port and trading metropolis. The participants also completed an extensive work program and reported on the work carried out in Brussels in recent months.

Everyone agrees that the tailwind that the IAM has received from the outstanding ruling of the European Court of Justice on the inadmissibility of data access blocks in the automotive industry must continue to be used. We will continue to focus all our efforts on enforcing fair competitive conditions for all market participants in Europe.

We firmly oppose all efforts by the automotive industry to reverse current European case law, for example by amending Annex 10 of Directive 2018/858. And we look forward to discussing our positions with the new EU Commissioners and MEPs. With our new General Secretary Marcin Barankiewicz, we have a profound expert on the subject at our side, who, as the successor to Jordi Brunet, has delivered his masterpiece with the organization of the GA in Gdansk.

Let us show politics and industry what united European forces are capable of.

Frank Beaujean,
EGEA Präsident



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May the 15th was a significant day for Independent Service Providers. Regional Court of Cologne rehear a Carglass@ Germany/Belron@ATU against FCA (Stellantis) considering the European Court of Justice (ECJ) decision from the 5th of October 2023. The ruling was in favour of Carglass@ Germany/Belron@and ATU. It confirmed that Independent Service Providers need to have access to in-vehicle data and conditions for access other than those provided in 2018/858 Type-Approval Regulation are forbidden.

In the previous EGEA Inside, we presented the case background. The Regional Court of Cologne forwarded questions to the ECJ on how to interpret the 858 Type Approval Regulation. ECJ made a legal interpretation, which is why the case returned to the Regional Court of Cologne's docket.

GROUNDBREAKING DECISION

"The ECJ's decision is nothing less than groundbreaking for the independent aftermarket. The Court clearly stated that any conditions attached to access to the vehicle data stream are unlawful unless they are expressly provided for by law – and the law does not allow manufacturers to block their OBD ports. The practice introduced by many manufacturers of restricting access by using „secure gateways“ or similar mechanisms must be abandoned immediately. Independent workshops must be able to access the vehicle data

stream through the OBD port without any restrictions (this includes access fees, by the way). The Regional Court of Cologne, where the proceedings had their origin, has already ordered one manufacturer to comply with these principles. Other manufacturers will follow" said Elisabeth Macher, L.L.M, Counsel from Osborne&Clarke Law Office representing Independent Service Providers.

Work is currently underway in the European Commission on the delegated act to amend Annex X of the Type-Approval Framework Regulation. ECJ decision is taken into account in these works to ensure the access of independent operators to on-board diagnostics (OBD) and repair and maintenance information (RMI) in line with Art. 61

EGEA is part of the Independent Service Providers alliance fighting for unhindered access to vehicle data for independent operators in fostering effective competition in the vehicle repair and maintenance market.

Marcin Barankiewicz
EGEA Secretary General





AT A GLANCE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION – AICA

AICA, the Italian Association of Automotive Equipment Manufacturers, represents the industry professionals involved in the design, production and sales of plants, machinery and equipment for the assistance, maintenance and repair of means of transportation. This is an highly export-oriented sector that has achieved a worldwide leadership position thanks to its innovative products and the entrepreneurial abilities of many Italian SMEs which, in some cases, have reached multinational status. According to association estimates, in 2022 the sector exported products totaling 3.050 million Euros and the share designated for export represented 87,1% of the total turnover. In addition to foreign markets, the domestic market continues to have a prominent role, and in 2022 absorbed 450 million Euros. The sector managed to obtain in 2022 a total turnover (sales on the domestic and export market) of 3.500 million Euros. This turnover was achieved with a total number of employees estimated at 14.900. The sector's production is concentrated prevalently in the regions of Emilia Romagna, Veneto, Lombardy and Tuscany, which account for about 80% of the national total. The association acts as a guide and link for its 67 member companies. Although these companies account for a third of the total number of producers in this industry, they represent over 80% of the

total turnover and the total employees in the sector. The mission of AICA is to voice the demands of members by reconciling the different characteristics existing within a highly diversified industry made up of both companies with specialized small-scale capabilities and larger groups that have opened up sales and production branches in the countries of highest strategic interest.



To get in touch with AICA Association you may contact: → info@asso-aica.it

Renzo Servadei is leading the AICA office

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On the 8th of February 2024, EGEA organized a successful webinar for its Members concerning Regulation (EU) 2023/1230 of The European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2023 on machinery and repealing Directive 2006/42/EC of the European Parliament and the Council and Council Directive 73/361/EEC. The key speaker was Mr Miguel Pelayo Munoz from BDO. Nearly 100 participants took part in the webinar. The new Regulation is already in force as of 2023 but will be applicable as of January 14th 2027. Mr Miguel Pelayo Munoz presented what are new Regulation (EU) 2023/1230 aims to cover as well as the most important issues related to the new regulation. Finally he presented conclusions which

are as follows:

- The new Regulation clarifies the distinction between machinery, related products and partly completed machinery.
- New regulation around the figure of substantial modification, as well as the obligation for a natural or legal person that carries out a substantial modification of machinery or a related product, shall be considered to be a manufacturer.
- Address the risks associated with the new digital technologies and it is specified that safety components should include not only physical devices but also digital devices.
- The different conformity assessment procedures have been revised in detail so that the obligations of each party are

better regulated, as well as a new evaluation procedure possibility.

- The manufacturer's obligations are regulated in detail and more strictly, and they are also regulated in those cases in which the obligations of manufacturers are applicable to importers and distributors.
- It opens the possibility of instructions for use and EU declaration of conformity in digital format.

FURTHER WEBINARS POSSIBLE

At the end of the webinar, there was a discussion session during which participants could ask questions. We would like to thank all participants for taking part in the webinar. We are also thinking about organizing similar webinars in the future.

NEW EGEA SECRETARY GENERAL

Marcin Barankiewicz (42) from Poland is coordinating the work of EGEA since the 1st of April. The new EGEA Secretary General prevailed against four competitors from four nations in a rigorous selection process.

„We are delighted to have found in Marcin Barankiewicz a worthy and comparably well-qualified successor to Jordi Brunet Garcia. Jordi has done outstanding work for the European workshop equipment industry since taking office in December 2019,” says current EGEA President Frank Beaujean.

FAMILIAR WITH EGEA TOPICS

Marcin Barankiewicz has many years of experience in the automotive industry and is familiar with all issues relating to periodic technical inspections (PTI) thanks to his work as a specialist in organizational and legal issues at the Polish Chamber of Motor Vehicle Inspection Bodies. He has been Chairman of the Board of the Chamber since June 2020. Thanks to his professional experience and his degree from the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw, as well as postgraduate studies at the University of Florida Levin College of Law and Lazarski University, Barankiewicz is ideally equipped for the tasks in Brussels. In his work in Poland, he has represented entrepreneurs who operate PTI stations and diagnostic specialists who carry out technical tests. Among ot-

her things, he was responsible for contact with representatives of the government, parliament, public administration and other organizations, associations and institutions in the automotive industry. In his role, he prepared statements and position papers on issues important to the PTI industry and was actively involved in legislative processes. „It is a stroke of luck for EGEA members that Marcin Barankiewicz complements his extensive legal background with equally sound practical knowledge. After all, he is a lawyer and trained automotive technician,” says Beaujean.

FORWARD-LOOKING PROJECTS AWAIT

Numerous and difficult tasks await the new EGEA General Secretary. First and foremost, the reorganization of the PTI and the adaptation of technical testing and monitoring content to the latest vehicle technologies. The issue of fair and equal access to technical data and information, which is vital for the independent aftermarket (IAM), is also high on the agenda. This includes the practical implementation of the ECJ ruling of October 5, 2023 on the admissibility of secure gateways (SGW) for access to vehicle data from OBD interfaces. „We are also eagerly awaiting the discussions on the introduction of a sector-specific regulation for access to data, resources and functions of connected vehicles. These will form the basis for completely new business models in the aftermarket in the



Marcin Barankiewicz has been managing the EGEA since April 1

future. I look forward to being able to support the EGEA and its members with my expertise on these forward-looking topics,” says Marcin Barankiewicz.



NGI - A FAST NEW WORLD

Workshop.Net, the networking standard for communication between ERP systems and workshop equipment devices, will be much faster to implement for new applications in future. asanetwork Managing Director Frank Beaujean and his developers have spent two years working on a new version of the network technology platform. Now the NGI (Next Generation Interface) platform is ready. The advantage for software providers and device manufacturers: NGI technology reduces the time required to implement new interfaces from several weeks to a few days. In future, the interfaces will communicate in a Workshop-Net session using web service technology. „Both the ERP systems (auto repair shop) / production systems (PTI) and the process control software of the workshop devices can now be installed in the cloud. Communication is protected by SSL certificates,” explains Beaujean. The NETMAN automatically translates the communication based on the old technology to the network participants with the new NGI technology! Legacy protection for all devices in the field with the „asanetwork” interface is guaranteed, as is the future viability of the „Workshop-Net” standard, for example for AI applications. → www.workshop-net.net





WORLD TRADE FAIR OF THE IAM

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The automotive industry is undergoing profound transformation. Topics such as e-mobility, digitalisation, connectivity, artificial intelligence and the supply chain are playing an increasingly important role in the automotive aftermarket. Is your company well positioned for the future? At Automechanika Frankfurt, which takes place from 10-14 September, over 4,000

companies from around 80 countries will present their new products and solutions from the entire automotive aftermarket. The trade fair is the most international industry meeting place for workshops and dealers. The Automechanika Academy offers a wide range of exciting presentations and talks on the topics of diagnostics and repair, body and paint as well as car

wash, care and detailing. Those who want to dive deeper into the subject of detailing can take part in the International Detailing Association (IDA) certification course for detailers. Under the motto 'Where Passion meets Business', the trade fair offers a new networking format for classic professionals and enthusiasts with its own vintage lounge, exciting panels and presentations on topics such as online parts procurement, processes and recruiting. The Future Workshop 4.0 offers a glimpse into the repair of tomorrow, where visitors can experience future technologies interactively. This will cover topics such as artificial intelligence and robotics, extended reality, automation and digitalisation. Numerous free practical workshops on accident repair and collision management are also planned this year. The day at the fair will be rounded off with drinks and live music at the daily happy hour.

→ Tickets and more at automechanika.messefrankfurt.com



GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN GDAŃSK

Last 16th of May the EGEA General Assembly took place in Gdańsk, Poland, kindly hosted by the Polish association STM. We want to express our sincere thanks to STM for their outstanding hospitality and seamless event organisation. They went the extra mile to make sure all EGEA members experienced a warm and friendly atmosphere and had unforgettable memories throughout the occasion. A cruise on the Black Pearl towards the sunset and dinner on board, as well as a yacht cruise on the bay of Gdańsk and lunch on Hel, will remain in your memory for a long time.

A notable moment during the meeting was the participation of our esteemed sponsors, Autopromotec, Automechanika, Equip Auto and Automotive Technology Fair TTM Poznań. They briefly presented to EGEA members the latest updates and developments within their organizations, offering valuable insights into their upcoming exhibition schedules for the coming years. Thank you very much for your support and we look forward to further fruitful cooperation.

The financial report was presented, and the board was discharged for the 2023 finances. The appointment of the new Secretary General was discussed and approved, as well as the European Court of Justice's ruling on the legality of restricting third-party access to vehicle OBD ports. The meeting also covered legal cases involving Osborne and Clark and budget allocation and commitment, as well as the green light to start negotiations with the VMs concerning the recent Court of Cologne ruling.



The Participants of the EGEA General Assembly in Gdańsk.

IMPRESSUM

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